

1	2	3	4
2. Isobutyl Benzene	China	7.1.94	Final Duty imposed on 31.8.95
3. 3,4,5, Trimethoxy Benaldehyde (TMBA)	China	11.8.94	Final Duty imposed on 20.10.95
4. Theophylline Caffeine	China	30.8.94	Final Duty imposed on 30.10.95
5. Acrylonitrile Butadiene Rubber (NBR)	Japan	28.10.94	Final Duty imposed on 14.11.95
6. Bisphenol-A	Brazil, Russia	30.12.94	Final Duty imposed on 26.12.95

1995-96

1. Sodium Ferrocyanide	China	11.10.95	Final Duty imposed on 20.12.95
2. Dead Burnt Magnesite (DBM)	China	16.5.95	Final Duty imposed on 20.12.96
3. Low Carbon Ferro Chrome (LCFC)	Russia Khaza-khstan	6.6.95	Final Duty imposed on 24.1.97
4. 8-Hydroxy-quinoline	China	4.3.96	Final Duty imposed on 1.4.97
5. Bisphenol-A	USA	20.11.95	Final Duty imposed on 29.4.97
6. Acrylonitrile Butadiene Rubber (NBR)	Germany Korea (RP)	14.3.96	Provisional Duties imposed on 31.1.97

1996-97

1. Catalysts	Denmark	6.9.96	Provisional Duties imposed on 20.6.97
2. Acrylic Fibre	USA, Thailand, Korea RP	13.9.96	Provisional Duties imposed on 25.4.97
3. Graphite Electrodes	USA China Spain Italy, Germany Belgium Austria	30.9.96	Provisional Duties recommended to Ministry of Finance on 9.6.97

1	2	3	4
4. PVC Resin @	Brazil, Mexico, South Korea & USA	30.6.96	Under Examination
5. Bisphenol-A@	Japan	30.9.96	Under Examination
6. Newsprint	USA Canada Russia	20.12.96	Provisional recommended to Ministry of Finance on 11.6.97
7. PTA	Indonesia, South Korea Thailand	20.12.96	Under examination for Provisional Duties

@ Review Cases

[Translation]

Loan to Farmers

1610. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the total loan provided to farmers by the public sector banks in the country during 1993-96 and in the current year, year-wise and State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE : (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : With a view to augment the flow of credit to the agriculture sector, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has introduced, effective from the year 1994-95, the system of drawing up of special Agriculture Credit Plans (SACPs) by public sector banks. Under the self-targets for agricultural lendings promoted by the SACPs the aggregate flow of credit to the agriculture sector has increased from Rs. 5,400 crores in 1993-94 to Rs. 12,717 crores in 1996-97. The year-wise performance of public sector banks, under SACP has been as under :-

(Rs. in crores)

Year	Target	Achievement
1994-95	9531.37	8255.66
1995-96	12121.19	10172.45
1996-97	14253.48	12716.48

(Data Provisional)

The anticipated level of disbursements under SACP during the current year is estimated to be Rs. 16,000 crores.

Further, as of March, 1997, on a provisional basis, the total advances (outstandings) to the agriculture sector from all public sector commercial banks under priority sector advances aggregated Rs. 31,012 crores (16.35% of Net Bank Credit against the stipulated target of 18%) which shows an

increase of about 17.7% over the level of Rs. 26,351 crores for the year 1995-96.

[English]

Sharing of Tax

1611. SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have decided recently to increase the share of States in all tax-revenue from the current financial year; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b) : The Tenth Finance Commission (TFC) had recommended an alternative scheme of sharing of Centre's tax revenue between the Centre and the States. The Ministry of Finance had brought out a discussion paper on the alternative scheme and tabled this paper in Parliament on December 20, 1996. The alternative scheme of TFC has been discussed in the meetings of the Standing Committee of the Inter-State Council and during the third meeting of the Inter-State Council held on July 17, 1997, it has been decided to adopt the consensus to accept the alternative scheme of 29% devolution w.e.f. 1.4.1996 proposed by the Tenth Finance Commission with one modification. The percentage share of vertical devolution may also be reviewed by successive Finance Commissions instead of freezing it for fifteen years, as suggested by the T F C. Further, this percentage may be reviewed sometime in December, 1997 or January, 1998 with a view to consider improvement in the States' share.

Violation of Article 14 in Case of Undertrials

1612. SHRI AJOY MUKHOPADHYAY : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that most of prisoners in the country comprise 90 per cent undertrials who are presumed guilty and deprived of the benefits admissible under the law of the country;

(b) if so, the reasons for violation of Article 14 of the Constitution; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP) : (a) to (c) The requisite information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Seizure of Silver

1613. SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJ BHAI CHIKHALIA :
SHRIMATI PURNIMA VERMA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity and the value of illegally brought silver seized during the current year and the details of places where it was seized;

(b) the number of persons arrested in each case;

(c) whether involvement of some gangs of smugglers have been detected in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof AND the modus operandi of smuggling by them; and

(e) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to check such type of smuggling?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE : (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Expert Group of Income Tax

1614. SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Expert Group of Income Tax has suggested to adopt Singapore model in regard to the incidence of tax evasion;

(b) if so, the suggestions made by the expert group; and

(c) the extent to which these have been considered and are being implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b) Yes Sir, the Expert Group set up to rewrite Income-tax Act has suggested that Section 33 of the Singapore Income tax Act with a few changes should be adopted in the Indian Income-tax Act as a special anti-avoidance provision which will cover cases other than the cases of outright tax evasion. The Group's recommendations are contained in Chapter-VIII of its report.

(c) Presently, the Expert Group is preparing a draft Bill based on its recommendations. After the Bill is ready, it is proposed to throw it open for public debate and thereafter a new Income-tax Bill, with suitable modifications, it likely to be introduced in the Parliament in the Winter Session later this year.

Rubber Cultivation

1615. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the estimated rubber cultivation in the country;

(b) whether there is any plan to increase the production in the non-traditional areas;